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EXTENSION SERVICE

# *Review*

OCTOBER 1955

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Federal Extension Service



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## Ear to the Ground

Having just returned from a vacation tour of national parks in the northwest, I can't refrain from telling you how wonderful they are, each in its own unique or beautiful way. Once through is only a teaser for more. The feeling of serenity inspired by the redwoods is a precious memory. Then the mountains in Canada's Banff National Park provide one marvelous view after another, with the turquoise blue lakes nesting like jewels in a green and white gold setting. If you think all the glaciers melted away in the ice age, a bumpy, 6 mile ride in a snowmobile over a glacier 1,000 feet thick and 18 miles deep will soon dispel that idea.

Half fearful that Glacier National Park would be an anticlimax to the Banff drive, we had a breath-taking surprise. Seeing the majestic beauty of those mountains close at hand is possible for thousands of people only because the national park system has built fine roads and provided many "View points ahead." Excellent camping facilities, cabins, hotels, eating places, tours and guides, all are there for your convenience.

Yellowstone Park, as I've always heard, is a fascinating place, a different world, where one needs time to explore it leisurely. Another world exists in Bryce Canyon, where beautiful and unbelievable rock formations in pinks, reds and ivories prick the imagination to lively activity. Zion Canyon is nearby, but as different as day and night. Driving through it is an exhilarating, thrilling experience. Then came the king of all, Grand Canyon, so vast and mysterious it's almost frightening. Again one is impressed by the power of water.

To top it all off, when we got home I found that even here the combination of wind and rain had penetrated the rocks of our stone chimney and loosened the plaster on the wall . . . but only temporarily dampened the home fires. CWB.

COVER PICTURE—In a Mississippi clover field, R. P. Hartness, Jr. and former Oktibbeha county agent J. K. Morgan discuss the production practices that resulted in this splendid stand.

Shoulder to Shoulder on

# Agriculture Conservation Programs

FRED RITCHIE, Acting Administrator, Agricultural Conservation Program Service, USDA

**T**HE AGRICULTURAL Conservation Program is an effective tool in the hands of many extension agents in carrying out their educational programs with farm families.

County Agent Rodney Rickenbach in Millard County, Utah, has an educational program on water conservation, using ditch lining and similar measures. Good water management is vital. By showing farmers that ACP shares up to 50 percent of the costs, Agent Rickenbach stimulated more farmers to use such measures than he would have been able to without cost sharing.

County Agent Frank S. Tulloss presented ACP to farmers in three communities of Stafford County, Va., as one of the tools available to them for their community development club work. He said that in many instances community conservation problems are solved as individuals successfully carry out their own conservation program. ACP offers opportunities for farmers through collective effort to make conservation accomplishments by individual ACP practices.

"The maximum amount a farmer may receive under the 1955 ACP for cost-sharing on a single farm is \$1,500," Agent Tulloss told his audience. "This will be a big help to farmers tackling some of our largest conservation problems."

Extension workers hold a unique position in the development and administration of ACP. Congress specified in legislation establishing the committee system for administering ACP that the State director of the Extension Service is an ex officio member of the State committee administering ACP, and the county extension agent is a member of the county committee unless elected to serve as secretary to the committee. Thus, by congressional direction, Extension is a member of the ACP family—responsible for farmer understanding, a



Ozro Hamlin points to his stock pond which ACP and Soil Conservation Service helped him plan and dig. The pond is used mainly for watering his cattle. Others in the picture are County Agent Thomas H. Black and District Extension Agent Paul O. Brooks of Oklahoma.

participator in policy and program formation, and jointly responsible for its long-term objectives.

As a member of the ACP family, Extension helps plan for its future, correct its weaknesses, recognize its limitations, and use its full capabilities.

County agents, by their position on the ASC committees, actually help develop the National and State AC Programs each year as well as their own county ACP.

By making a plan of work for the coming year that will use effectively the conservation practices approved for cost sharing under ACP, an extension agent or specialist furthers the conservation efforts of the farm families with whom he works.

Conversely, by presenting recommendations to the rest of the ASC committee for particular practices which fit into his own plan of work, a county agent gives impetus to his plan. Likewise, a conservation problem will more likely be solved when attacked by united effort by several agencies with a common goal than by different agencies working inde-

pendently. Because of their understanding of farmers and their problems, county agents can be helpful in developing local AC programs so as to include only the essential features that are needed to solve their conservation problems.

Extension specialists find ACP sufficiently adaptable to fit into any program.

Extension foresters find ACP provides cost sharing for forestry practices, including tree planting, selective cutting, and establishing fire breaks. The naval stores phase of ACP fits cost sharing to the particular needs of turpentine farmers.

Extension livestock specialists can tell farmers that ACP offers cost sharing for the establishment or improvement of protective vegetative covers which in most situations provide additional and more nutritive forage.

This information should be made available to farmers in the same manner as information about better breeds, winter pastures, and feed costs.

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# OUR MILLION DOLLAR CLUB

A. C. KAMM  
Farm Adviser  
Piatt County, Ill.

**T**HE MILLION DOLLAR CLUB, our major extension project in Piatt County, Ill., has now ended its second year. So far it has proved superior to any previous efforts to improve the status of agriculture, a basic industry in the county. When the project started, crops were producing only between 50 and 60 percent of potential yields. Our goal is to increase this potential to 80 or 90 percent.

This project has already attracted a fair amount of interest and publicity, possibly because it combines three phases of Extension work that may be generally described as technical, economic, and social. In this brief review I shall ignore the first two phases except to say that the technical aspects are very important and that the returns from increased production in the county this second year amounted to some \$2,000,000. Thus the name Million Dollar Club has a basis in fact.

We define the social phase of this project as those activities which a community may carry on in order to achieve a definite goal. Reaching this community goal depends first upon the farmer's reaching a specific goal on his own farm, thus the community rewards are in the nature of a second mortgage. But there are many social values that develop in the effort to make community progress accrue to all who participate.

We feel that these social gains are most difficult to plan for, and also most difficult to measure. But they are also probably the primary reason for success or failure of the community goal; and they are inextricably interwoven in the technical and economic aspects of the job.

What have we done on this third, or social, phase?

1. We set up the community organization on a township basis, which seemed most practical for our county.

2. After the project had been approved by the County Extension Committee, it was explained to a cross-sectional group of farmers and businessmen in each township.

3. The local banker was asked to invite a group of leaders to the organization meeting. He and several other persons determined who were to be invited.

4. The meeting was publicized, and it was made clear that anyone who wished to assist was welcome to attend, even though not specifically invited.

5. Leaders for each township were elected at this organization meeting, although subsequent annual meetings resulted in some changes in leadership.

How well have these community or township committees functioned? A few of them have done outstanding work carrying on specific activities in a sustained manner. The rest have not been totally inactive but have made a few attempts to really harness for the "long pull." But we

are not discouraged with any township. Each one is planning and taking such action as it feels is merited.

Generally speaking, what do we expect of these township committees? Their principal objective is to promote membership in the Million Dollar Club and to integrate its activities into the activities of their community on a sustaining basis. They also keep the energies of the community directed toward the goal of efficient crop production, and at the same time stress community improvement in general.

In addition, they give some help to farmers in working out individual plans to increase their efficiency.

Our banks have been particularly helpful in this project, as have been grain elevators. Other business firms have lent varying support.

There are no daily newspapers in the county, but daily papers having a circulation in the county have been very helpful. County papers have supported the program a lesser extent, and several nationally circulated magazines have carried excellent articles.

We have learned much the hard way, but believe that patience and persistence will pay increasing dividends in the future, not only in increasing our agricultural production and consequently the level of living of our farm people, but also in cementing a bond between rural people and townspeople that will lead to general community and county progress.



Close cooperation is an important factor in Piatt County's Million Dollar Club. (Left to right) John Hardimon, of the State Bank of Bement; County Agent A. C. Kamm; and Bert Downey, Chairman of the County Soil Conservation Districts.

## 4-H Achievement Day

• **NATIONAL 4-H ACHIEVEMENT DAY.** November 12, is the big observance of fall for more than 2,100,000 club members throughout the country. Besides farming, homemaking, and community service achievements this past year, enrollment has increased by about 44,000; the number of community and county clubs has now reached a total of nearly 89,000; and 4-H'ers have worked under the guidance of 336,000 public-spirited volunteer local leaders—the highest number ever.





## FARM-CITY NEIGHBORS LOCK

### ARMS IN OHIO COUNTY

**F**ARM and city people have depended on each other to provide for each other such important products as food and clothing, tractors, washing machines, and television sets. Yet they have differing opinions and misunderstandings about matters which concern both of them intimately. To learn more about such misunderstandings and to find ways to clear them up, Auglaize County, Ohio, turned "guinea pig" June 20 to 26 with a weeklong preliminary pilot trial of Farm-City Week. The National Farm-City Week is set for October 23-29.

A questionnaire, answered by 575 farm and nonfarm people before the Auglaize Farm-City Week, showed there was indeed misunderstanding of each other's business and problems. So at meetings, tours, hay-rides, teas, forums, and other gatherings scheduled for the week, farm and city people "learned how the other half lives."

Auglaize County folks wanted to

show that present relations between farm and city people can be improved. They also wanted to experiment with ways of planning and carrying out a series of successful events designed to improve these relationships.

Take the questionnaire. Returns showed that farm and city folks had widely different ideas as to how much investment you need in order to buy and equip a farm or to start in the grocery business.

One question was "How much money do you think a young farmer must have to buy a 100-acre farm and necessary equipment to get started in the general livestock business?" In Auglaize County 32 percent of nonfarm and 23 percent of farm people believed it could be done for less than \$30,000. But 15 percent of nonfarm and 10 percent of farm people thought it would be over \$50,000.

What's the answer? Records from western Ohio show that it would take from \$30,000 to \$35,000 to put 100

acres into full operation in Auglaize County. Only 9 percent each of nonfarm and farm people gave this correct estimate.

How about the percent of return the farmer should be able to realize per dollar invested? Eight percent of nonfarm and 13 percent of farm people believed it would be under 5 percent. On the other hand, 68 percent of nonfarm and 64 percent of farm people believed it would be between 5 percent and 55 percent. Actually, the return per dollar invested in farming should be about the same as in other businesses. Four percent return is a common figure used. This does not include a return for labor.

To buy a small retail grocery store with necessary stock and facilities, 61 percent of nonfarm and 45 percent of farm people believed it would take between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Twelve percent nonfarm and 11 percent farm people answered under

*(Continued on page 206)*





# NUTRITION PROJECT CHAIRMEN SET THEIR SIGHTS



MARY GIBBS and  
VICKIE RICKETT  
Extension Nutrition  
Specialists, Georgia

**N**OW that I am a nutrition chairman for my home demonstration club, what should I do?

This question has come to practically every home demonstration agent and nutrition specialist who works with foods and nutrition leaders. We always knew that the answer we gave to this question would be reflected in the kind of

leadership the chairman gave back to her group.

We knew the strongest point in any answer was that a large part of the leadership of the nutrition program must come from the chairmen themselves. How to get their best contribution became our major problem.

The use of color slides seems to be one of our best methods to help the leaders realize their responsibilities and what they can do about them.

In Georgia every home demonstration club has a nutrition chairman. In many of the counties this year these chairmen and their home demonstration agent met with their specialists to talk over the objectives of the nutrition program. The group would sit in a semicircle around a screen while the agent or nutrition specialist slipped color slides into a projector. Comments on these slides came from the leaders and their agent as well as from the specialists. Six basic slides showing the goals furnished the major part of the discussion. Interspersed among these slides were those made locally of the home demonstration clubs at work on food projects. Other slides showed foods included in the projects, meal patterns, and other activities about nutrition.

As they viewed these slides, they established the goals for the nutrition program this year. The first goal was to attend a nutrition leader program. The fact that they had accepted the role of chairman was an evidence of their interest in this first step.

Goal 2 emphasized the need to study nutrition material and to make it up to date. Each leader had been furnished an envelope containing "Nutrition Up To Date Up To You;" the weekly food plan; an annual food plan; and mimeographed leaflets on methods for presenting demonstrations, conducting tours, and making exhibits.

Goal 3 was to give a demonstration back in their own home club. Here, project leaders and home demonstration agents worked together in planning a suitable demonstration based on the needs of the families back home. This demonstration was flexible enough to be adapted to the

various communities. In the majority of the counties, the demonstration finally chosen was the preparation of an oven meal.

Following such a demonstration, the chairman and the agent discussed when, where, and how project leaders would present this information to their club.

As the leaders worked together to prepare the oven meal they practiced the key steps of the demonstration.

A means of reaching others outside home demonstration clubs was suggested in goal 4, "Giving a Nutrition Program."

Emphasis was given to the fact that civic clubs, parent-teacher associations, 4-H clubs, farm bureaus, and other local groups were always on the search for new material and would probably like a nutrition program at one of their meetings.

Goal 5 was to keep a record of nutrition activities. As this slide was shown, the group talked about ways in which they might keep good records on the nutrition activities of their club.

Step 6 was designed to bring out the ingenuity and originality of the project chairman.

It suggests that nutrition be emphasized by means of tours, exhibits, radio and TV programs, news stories, and achievement days.

Certificates of merit are awarded to Georgia nutrition chairmen for outstanding work using these 6 goals as criteria for selection.

As the semi-circle around the projector broke up and as the discussion ended, the nutrition program chairman had charted a course of action and had found some answers to the question—How I can be a good foods leader.

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UNITED NATIONS

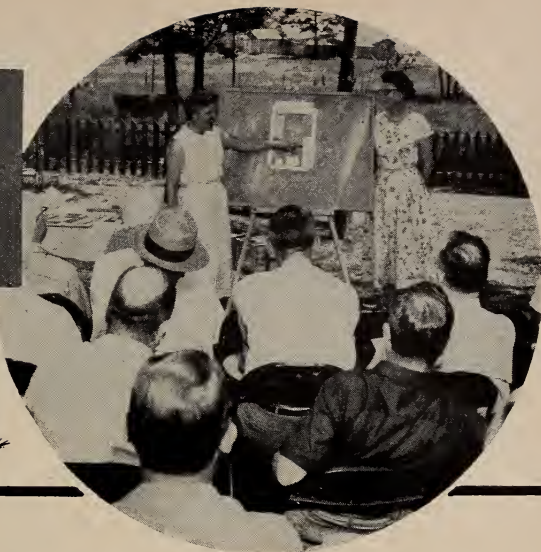
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# ALABAMA BANKERS STUDY FARMING



**A**LABAMA farm families will be talking to an understanding banker when they ask for a loan to make farm and home improvements. At least that should be the result of their 1955 series of seven bankers clinics.

This was the fifth year for Alabama's bankers clinics, jointly sponsored by the State Bankers Association, the Experiment Station, the Extension Service, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Each year some special interest of the State's agriculture has been highlighted at these clinics, and Experiment Station results and Extension Service programs bearing on it have been brought out.

This year farm and home development, as the farm unit approach is known in Alabama and a number of other States, was selected for special emphasis. Naturally this threw first responsibility for the program on the Extension Service. The other members of the sponsoring team, however, prepared and made their contributions.

As in most previous years the meetings were held at seven branch Experiment Stations located in as many types of farming areas. These Experiment Stations all have suitable meeting halls that doubled as dining rooms for the luncheons. Station wagons transported chairs to farms where demonstrations were held.

The program in each case began

with a talk by the superintendent of the station. He discussed improved practices for the important enterprises of the area.

Next came a carefully prepared presentation of the farm and home unit activities by D. R. Harbor and Stella Mitchell, the two members of the State staff specially assigned to this work. Mr. Harbor's presentation included a brief review of the early extension emphasis on demonstrations and how it has largely shifted to meeting calls for information and to making use of mass media. Then farm and home development was presented as a partial return to the individualized teaching through demonstration, but on the whole farm basis rather than by enterprises or practices.

While Mr. Harbor spoke, Miss Mitchell outlined the information on a flannelgraph and pointed out the present location of the 38 special county workers already added in Alabama for this work. Harbor told the bankers that a goal of 25 to 30 families had been set for the first year and an increase to 40 to 50 planned for the second in these counties. Agents in other counties are asked to develop plans with 1 to 5 families. Some increase in the number of these families, as well as the number of counties in which special agents are employed, is anticipated for the coming year, he stated.

Next, Harbor reviewed the proce-

dures followed in the farm and home development work with the cooperating family. This begins with an inventory of the family's resources; its management ability and its labor capacity; the land, the buildings that it controls; and its financial status. Next is the analysis of the situation. This includes (a) the identification of the family's problems, which most frequently have their basis for inadequate income; (b) the bringing out of the possible alternatives as to enterprises and improvements in the farm and home business; and (c) determining the family's longtime goals.

The third step is making choices as to what will be done, in what order they will be undertaken, and how they will be carried out. This means making a plan. The plan is put into somewhat detailed written form including maps of the farm. The fourth stage is decision or action, and the fifth is bearing responsibility for what results. The operator has to put in the money and other resources and accept the risks.

Miss Mitchell discussed family participation in farm and home development. She emphasized the value of family councils in reaching decisions; the possible competition for investment between the farm and the home; the importance of farm production for home use; the varying place families give to education of

*(Continued on page 202)*



# Pattern Shells



MARJORIE ANN TENNANT,  
Assistant Extension Editor, Kansas

**P**ATTERN shells, as a means of selecting the best pattern size and a basis of pattern alterations were used by more than 3,000 Kansas home sewers last year.

Since the pattern shells were introduced into the Kansas extension clothing program in 1953, they have proved a practical and interesting way for women to check which size, brand, and figure type pattern is the best-fitting for them. Fifteen Kansas counties have used the pattern shells. The first set made is still in use, and all sets are being used.

A set of pattern shells, made of sanforized percale, includes from 50 to 95 basic blouses. The blouses are made from commercial patterns in all sizes in girls, teen, junior, misses, and half sizes figure types. A different color percale is used for each of the figure types. The shells are labeled with size, figure type, and pattern brand.

Home demonstration agents have supervised the making of the shells by clothing project leaders in the county. The leaders have been impressed with the great need for accuracy as they discovered how many of their fitting problems were due to inaccurate cutting and construction.

As more Kansas counties include

the use of pattern shells in their extension clothing program, sets of shells are being rented from another county. New sets of pattern shells are not being made until the re-standardization of pattern sizing is completed, and patterns are available to the home sewer. The average cost of one shell has been \$1.25. In Kansas counties the cost of the complete set averages 15 cents per unit member. Agents have found that an efficient way to transport and store the shells is on a long pole. They are arranged by color indicating figure type and by sizes. A wooden block on each end of the pole keeps the blouses in place on the seat backs of a car.

During the first day of 3 days of leader-training meetings conducted by Christine Wiggins, extension specialist in clothing and textiles, the two clothing project leaders from each home demonstration unit in the county and 4-H clothing project leaders have an opportunity to try on the pattern shells.

When each woman has found the best-fitting size, figure type, and brand, she and her co-leader determine necessary alterations to be made on a commercial pattern to improve the fit.

Pattern shells simplify alterations. Only measurements concerned in the needed alterations have to be applied to the pattern. Women typically do not enjoy working with numbers. The shells eliminate much figuring and confusion about location of body lines.

The pattern shells have helped women visualize the pattern fit, the differences in figure types and differences between pattern brands. Grading and sloping techniques used by different companies in making the pattern account for the differences. The shells have shown home sewers that many of their fitting problems were difficult because they were using incorrect pattern sizes and figure types. Many find that one pattern brand fits better than another.

As a part of the pattern alteration lesson, the leaders are asked to make a simple cotton dress and check the fit with the home demonstration agent. Great improvements in the fit are reported by the agents as the leaders used information received in the lesson in fitting and constructing the garment.

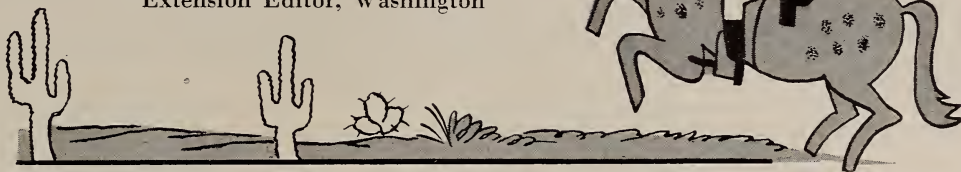
When the lesson is presented at unit meetings, the pattern shells are available, and each member has the

*(Continued on page 202)*



# Life on the Range

CHARLES A. BOND,  
Extension Editor, Washington



**W**ASHINGTON STATE'S future cattlemen are learning the scientific facts of life on the range firsthand in a series of annual range-management camps conducted by specialists in the various related fields.

The purpose of the camps is to give 1 week's intensive training in range and pasture management and livestock production. Each boy takes a formal written test at the end of the week, and awards are given on the basis of grades made in the test.

This year 48 boys attended the camp held on Sinlahekin creek, near Loomis, in the upper reaches of Okanogan, Washington's largest range county. The Washington boys were members of 4-H Clubs and Future Farmers of America. Seven attended from Canada. All were from 14 to 18 years old.

Campers are selected by local organizations in their home communities who award "campships" to the affair. These organizations include county cattlemen's associations, soil conservation districts, service clubs, and local business firms such as banks and implement companies. Each camper is required to make a public report to his sponsor following the camp.

The camp is sponsored by the Western Section, American Society of Range Management. "Top boy" at the camp gets an expense paid trip to the annual meeting of the society. Plaques are awarded to the top three.

The program calls for intensive field work and study with time for recreation also. Lectures and discussions are held in the morning, field trips every afternoon, and educational, entertaining movies in the

evening interspersed with inspirational talks. An hour and a half after each afternoon field trip is reserved for recreation such as baseball, fishing, and swimming.

Here's a brief outline of the week's activities: Monday: Plant identification and culture, including grasses, legumes, and weeds; Tuesday: Range management, stressing wise use of the range; Wednesday: Irrigated pasture management and hay production. Thursday: Range use as related to wildlife management. Friday: Livestock and livestock management. Saturday: Tests and awards.

Instructors are drawn from State Extension specialists and county agents, Soil Conservation Service, State Department of Game, Forest Service, and local ranchers. This year the camp director was Reade Brown from the State Department of Game. Gerald L. Poor, State 4-H Club Agent, was in charge of the boys in camp.

Campers lived in tents at this year's camp, sleeping in sleeping bags on the ground. At other camps bunkhouses have been available. "Running water" came from the creek which also served as a refrigerator.

Attendance at this camp was the largest in the series. Only 20 boys attended the first year's session. The idea for the Washington camp came originally from a similar camp held in Oregon. This was attended by County Agent Phil Bloom, of Washington's Kittitas County, and a couple of 4-H members. They spread the word and the Washington camp series resulted through cooperation of various interested organizations.



Henry Wolfe, Washington extension weed specialist, scratches his head to puzzle out effective ways of explaining weed control methods to boys attending the 4-H annual State Range Management Camp.



## Pattern Shells

(Continued from page 200)

opportunity to determine her best pattern buy. Women are enthusiastic about the shells for they help to save time in sewing. With good pattern selection and efficient alterations, sewing is easier and the end results are satisfying.

4-H Club leaders have endorsed the pattern shells. Club girls in rapid-growing stages find it simple to check with pattern shells for the best-fitting pattern at a certain time. Club leaders comment that the shells save them time spent on helping the girls alter patterns and give the 4-H'ers more satisfactory garments.

Some agents have lent the shells to home economics teachers and used them at pattern counters in local stores. The shells are available for trying on in the county office.

Fitting problems have become more apparent to Kansas homemakers as they have studied efficient management of sewing skills and equipment. This method of sewing is being taught by county home demonstration agents in workshop groups. If sewing produces the desired results, an accurate fit from the beginning is essential. Consequently, the importance of pattern sizes, body measurements, and alterations take the spotlight.

Home demonstration agents using the pattern shells report that a fleshy upper arm is a serious fitting problem. One agent made a few sleeveless shells for women with large upper arms. Experience has also shown that pattern shells in sizes larger than 44 are not practical for each figure presents different proportions and needs different alterations.

The small older woman has a problem in selecting appropriate styles in the best fitting figure type. The teen, girl, or junior patterns may be her best fitting figure type although the designs are, for the most part, pictured on youthful figures. The resulting mental barrier is sometimes hard to hurdle. A careful study of line and design in patterns of the best fitting figure type is encouraged by the specialist to enable the women to overcome the mental barrier of teen-age illustrations.

## Bankers Study Farming

(Continued from page 199)

their children, their own longtime security, and recreation for all in selecting their longtime goals; and their responsibility for community leadership.

The county farm and home agents working with the family to be visited were introduced at each meeting. They gave a very brief summary of the background of the family and how it came to be selected for the demonstration. Then the clinic group drove to the farm where they heard the farmer and his wife discuss their main problems, alternatives they considered, the longtime plan they developed, and the parts that were carried out this year and next. In doing this, they made use of maps of the farm colored to show present land use and how they expect to have it when the plan is in full operation. The Extension Service had this information in processed form for distribution to those present.

In one session a farm couple joined the clinic group at the station farm and requested a loan to help carry out their plan from their local banker. The two extension agents accompanied them and gave supporting information as to the plan developed and the prospects for additional income.

### Long and Short Term Loans

The couple wanted both a short-term and a long-term loan. The main items in the first were seed, fertilizer, lime, tractor fuel, and insurance premiums. They wanted the longer term loan to cover purchase of brood sows, hog houses, fences and posts, kitchen cabinets, and to pay the cost of the utility room. The banker asked a number of questions as to the use of the money, the schedules of repayments they felt they could meet, and the security they could give for the loan.

The family prepared and brought with them a net-worth statement and a list of their life, property, and liability insurance coverage. Their net worth was probably about average for this rather thin-soiled high-land rim farming area. There were

no mortgages on the property and no installment payments to be met.

Both the operating and improvement loans needed for this farm were comparatively small, and the repayment prospects taking into consideration the off-farm incomes were strong. The banker said he would be glad to make the production loan on an open unsecured note.

The family wanted the privilege of spreading payments on the improvement loan over 5 years. The banker said that he could make this loan also with a real estate mortgage as security. The farmer showed considerable reluctance toward giving this mortgage, since he was rather proud of owning the farm free of debt. The county agent entered the discussion to point out the fact that the farm equipment was also free and a chattel mortgage might serve.

The banker did not like the idea of chattel security for a 5-year loan. He agreed, however, with the county agent that this loan, too, would probably be paid off in a couple of years. If the farm family would agree to give the real estate mortgage later, should things not work out as expected, he would advance the money as they needed it on the chattel security.

### Better Credit Risks

In the final session, after the couple left the meeting, the clinic group reviewed the specific plan and loan studied. The local banker told the group he had known this man for years and that he had an excellent record for paying debts. All the bankers agreed that the declining cotton income had to be at least partially replaced with other enterprises. They looked with much favor on this man's supplementary income from barbering and said he ought to continue it as long as possible.

The group also discussed some of the broader implications of the farm unit approach and their significance to leaders. The bankers said this planning assistance certainly improved a farm family as a credit risk and wanted to know how long they could count on a family receiving this special help.





## ***4-H CLUB Members try their hands at governing a county***



**CAL BURGETT,**  
County Agent, Ralls County, Mo.

**N**EW BLOOD pulsed through the historic old courthouse of Ralls County, Mo., last spring as 19 enthusiastic 4-H youngsters took over as many county offices for a day.

Problem after problem of a public nature was met thoughtfully and squarely, then dealt with according to the best judgment of these young officers.

Known as the "Ralls County 4-H Government Day," the event was an attempt to stimulate thinking on the part of older 4-H youngsters concerning some of the public problems being confronted every day within the confines of their own county units. This event of their citizenship program was planned by 4-H Council and county extension leaders to provide an opportunity for young leaders to see and participate in public policy in action as well as to observe and actually take part in the mechanisms of county office administration.

The youngsters, whose names were submitted by local adult 4-H leaders, were a mature, serious-minded group

who were able to weigh the facts encountered in each individual situation, discuss and evaluate them, and arrive at a logical and workable conclusion.

In the eyes of the extension personnel of Ralls County and the county officials who cooperated in holding the day, the actual participation of these youngsters in matters of public interest was a healthy, thought-provoking teaching method.

Probably one of the most exciting events of the day occurred for the 4-H County sheriff when Sheriff Carter Swon picked up a man on a charge of careless and reckless driving. The entire group attended the hearing, while 4-H officials presided with the assistance of county officials.

Problems confronted by the 4-H County Court were met with the assistance of Judges Stanley Evans, Sam Berrey, and Irvine Haden. They included advice on securing rights-of-way, a road-straightening problem, granting of needed bridge repairs,

admitting a patient to the tuberculosis sanatorium, and agreeing to gravel a road.

County officials cooperating included the presiding judge, judges of two districts, county superintendent of schools, deputy sheriff, assessor, magistrate judge, agricultural stabilization committee office manager, circuit clerk and recorder, deputy circuit clerk and recorder, county clerk, county treasurer, county collector, county health nurse, and the county extension staff.

Members of our county extension office, Paul Schoene, associate agent; Kathryn Libbee, county home agent; and I, who coordinated the event, believe that the day was a great success and that 4-H'ers received valuable training in leadership and county functioning.

Presiding Judge of the County Court, Stanley Evans, told the group that the court was proud to have a part in putting on the day which he believed would help the young people in their understanding of government.



# West Virginia Young Folks Chart Their Progress

C. H. HARTLEY  
Retired West Virginia State 4-H Club Leader



**C**HARTING is a unique feature of West Virginia 4-H Club work—one of the most important and most helpful features—as thousands of “alumni” 4-H members will testify.

This 4-H Chart used in a personal development program helps the member see himself as he really is and aids him in planning a program of self-development, especially where weakness is discovered. The chart is for use of older club members, those 15 years or older who have completed, prior to the current year, 2 years or more of club work.

The West Virginia 4-H Chart is a mimeographed booklet of about 40 pages, including the pages of introduction and instruction.

The chart proper consists of seven units or divisions:

1. 4-H Club Information.
2. My Educational and Vocational Interests.
3. Life Enrichment.
4. My Community.
5. Getting Along With Other People.
6. My Work and Skills.
7. My Health.

Under each unit are statements and questions with blank spaces for the member's answers and comments. In order to fill in the blank, the member must make a rather thorough study of his activities and experiences. It is hoped that the member will ask himself how well he has done or is doing the work expected of him.

For instance, in the unit on 4-H Club Information, questions under such headings as membership, meetings, projects, camps, 4-H publications, and my 4-H Club are such as

to require the club member to review all his 4-H Club activities.

In the unit, Getting Along With People, the member is asked to examine himself in his relationship with members of his family, schoolmates, teachers, and others.

Other units also require careful and searching self-examination. The aim and hope of this is to help the club member see himself as he really is—thus challenging him to do better.

In the introductory pages of the 4-H Chart is a message to the 4-H Club member who expects to use the chart. It reads in part:

“You, by carefully studying each unit of the 4-H Chart and by writing in as much of the information called for as you can, will create a word-picture of your own development. Then it will be possible for you and others to see what needs to be done to strengthen any weakness that you may have in your development.

“The main purpose of the 4-H Chart is to let you see yourself as you really are and to help you plan a program of self-improvement. Charting is not an easy job, to be done over night. It may require weeks or months of study and self-discipline.

Charting is explained and problems discussed at meetings of older club members before they begin filling out the chart. At each county 4-H camp, members working on their 4-H Chart meet in groups, with an experienced leader in charge, and discuss problems. The leader also has personal interviews with the members, makes suggestion, and gives counsel to them.

After the member has his chart completed, it is checked by the local leader and by one of the county extension workers for such additions, corrections, and suggestions as they care to make. All good local leaders and county extension workers must do some personal counseling. This is especially helpful to older 4-H Club members, and the 4-H Chart is a most effective aid in this field.

The work on this 4-H Chart in West Virginia began back in the early days of boys and girls club work—now 4-H Clubs—when some of the leaders, William “Teepi” Kendrick, in particular, were in close touch with the Four-Fold Life Development Program of the Sunday School Association. In West Virginia county camps, which began in 1915, a group

*(Continued on page 206)*



I. B. Boggs, State Boys' 4-H Club Agent (center), meets with a typical charting class.



# TIMBER!



## Down with a tree • Up with a house

WILLIAM B. ROGERS, Assistant Extension Editor, Arkansas

**R**OY JENNINGS, who lives 2 miles west of Clinton in Van Buren County, Ark., is looking forward to the time when his timber stand improvement work will mean larger cuts and better products from his 400-acre timber tract.

And, continuing to improve his timber stand, he has utilized his farm forest in two ways to provide for the needs of his family.

He has found that his forest land offers off-season work when he is not busy working with pastures or livestock. Sale of low-quality trees being taken out in stand improvement work is bringing him from \$8 to \$12 per day labor return.

Jennings, his wife, and 6-month-old son, Ronald, now have a new home built largely from material that came from their own timber farm. Lumber from his woods included practically all material used in building the house except for plywood cabinets in the kitchen and some flooring.

With only a \$3,500 actual cash outlay, the Jennings family has a three-bedroom home that County Agent David Bostian estimates as worth about \$10,000 as a farm house. In Little Rock, or other heavily populated areas, it would be worth more.

Since Jennings' farm forest contains trees of fence post and pulpwood sizes, he plans on thinning his

pinus for these products at the rate of about 40 acres per year until he covers his entire forest.

Sale of posts and pulpwood will give his family needed income now, and release crowded pine for faster growth into sawlog stock. In addition to the salable fence posts and pulpwood from these thinnings, he is also cutting and selling fuel wood and plans to cut and treat fence posts for use on his own farm.

Present plans are to eliminate by girdling hardwood trees of low quality. These are usually caused by fire injury, excessive limbs, undesirable species, rot, and crookedness. Purpose of this type of work in young pine stands is to increase growth by giving more water, soil space, and sunlight to the young pines.

He will girdle a part of the acreage each year until he has covered the entire area. Jennings plans on taking full advantage of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation payments of \$3 per acre for timber stand improvement work.

The last cut was made about 6 years ago on a "lump sum" sale basis. This included all pine down to an 8- or 10-inch DBH (diameter breast high).

County Agent David Bostian, who has worked with Jennings on his farm forest planning, pointed out

that Jennings now realizes this method of sale does not bring as high a return for the volume of products taken from the woods and that it leaves the forest in poor growing condition for future income.

Of the 22,000 board feet of lumber used in the house, which has a floor space of 1,250 square feet; only 2,000 board feet was bought, with the remaining coming from the 400-acre timber tract. Had he bought all the lumber, it would have cost at least \$85 per thousand. Ceiling and flooring material would have been more.

With his father's help, the sawlogs were cut and taken to the mill, then brought back, and stacked to air-dry. It took nearly 2 years for some of the flooring to season. After the lumber dried, it was hauled to the planer mill in Clinton to be dressed.

Cost of materials for the house, including all windows and doors, was \$2,800. Cost for plumbing fixtures for the bath and kitchen and for a well and pump brought this figure up to \$3,500.

But perhaps even more important is that proper management of this tree farm is bringing in needed income now and still promises to pay dividends in the future in a greater quality and quantity of forest products, Bostian added.



## Farm-City Neighbor

*(Continued from page 197)*

\$10,000. The few who gave this answer were nearer the figure than any of the others.

It would take at least \$5,000 to \$10,000 to start a small neighborhood retail grocery. To start a large supermarket would require from \$100,000 on up.

Another question concerned the percent of return the retail grocer should be able to realize per dollar invested. In Auglaize County 31 percent of nonfarm and 19 percent of farm people answered between 16 and 55 percent; 5 percent of nonfarm and 6 percent of farm people gave under 5 percent; and 39 percent of nonfarm and 38 percent of farm folks gave 5 to 15 percent. This final figure is considered correct.

The questionnaire also revealed nine areas in which the largest share of folks felt fully satisfied. Significantly, one such area was the degree to which farm folks seem to be accepted when they come to town.

There were three areas where most folks said they felt dissatisfied. One was young people's recreational facilities; we have already discussed the other two in this article. In addition, 8 areas were found where farm and city people differed in their feeling of satisfaction and 23 areas where most people answered they were dissatisfied.

With this situation in Auglaize County, several events were arranged to help farm and city folks get better acquainted. Taking part were such groups as civic clubs, churches, businessmen, labor union, farm organizations, industry, the State university, youth groups, and others.

The Wapakoneta Rotary and wives gave a buffet luncheon at a home in St. Johns, and the St. Marys Soroptomist Club entertained a group of rural women. The Farm Bureau Youth Council organized a farm-city hay ride, and each member of the Farm Bureau Council invited a city family to an evening meeting. 4-H girls toured a woolen mill, cheese factory, and a bottling company. The St. Marys Rotary Club invited farmers to a luncheon where everyone

saw the film "Never Keep a Good Steak Waiting." The Auglaize County Farm Bureau women entertained their city sisters in a farm-city women's get-together. The Wapakoneta CIO held a dinner and meeting for their farm friends. Other activities included a meeting at the site of the new St. Mary's post office with the Assistant Postmaster General as speaker, public tours of a rubber plant and a woolen mill, a square dance, and a pot luck supper. And the St. Mary's Girl Scout Troops had rural girls as their guests at their Girl Scout Camp.

In Auglaize County, both farm and city folks went all out for just plain education and good entertainment where everyone could see how other people live. Each group learned a lot from the other and gained a better understanding of the other's problems. The farm-city week program built good relations for each group. Everyone gained.

But this county pilot project held in June in Ohio and National Farm-City Week scheduled for October are only steps. Understanding and mutual confidence between farm and city cousins are objectives toward which Extension has been working for many years. The farm-city problems won't be solved in 1 year or even in a few. Attaining a better mutual understanding so that each group is acquainted with the other's situation and problems is a continuing process.

Auglaize County people believe and are demonstrating that openminded farm-city group discussion and get-better-acquainted activities can go a long way toward broad-minded understanding between farm and city people.

## Agriculture Conservation Program

*(Continued from page 195)*

Soils and crops specialists can give practicability to demonstrations by telling farmers who need help that ACP cost sharing is available for materials and service—to provide part of the cost of needed lime and other plant nutrients together with seed and fencing necessary for successful

establishment of protective vegetative cover.

ACP is intended to be flexible enough to meet most recognized conservation problems. If a county has a particular conservation problem, the National Bulletin (ACProgram) authorizes development of a practice for the county ACP which does not appear in either the State or National ACP handbooks. The practice may or may not apply to any other locality in the United States. In addition, it provides for the development and use in a county of conservation practices for the treatment of critical conservation problems of an emergency nature which have arisen after the year's program got underway.

The sole purpose of ACP is to achieve more needed soil and water conservation in the public interest. Efforts are continuously being made to improve it. Cost sharing for practices with enduring benefits is emphasized. Rates of cost sharing are adjustable to the extent necessary to get maximum conservation accomplished. Extension workers, by using ACP wisely, are increasing their effectiveness. And by carrying out their responsibilities for ACP as congressionally directed they are helping make ACP a better service for farmers.

## Young Folks Chart Progress

*(Continued from page 204)*

discussion class for older club members was held for the studying of Fourfold Development, termed Head (mental), Hand (social), Health (physical), and Heart (religious or spiritual).

The Four-fold Life Chart and the tests, checks, and methods used along with it were under continuous revision, and after a few years it was called the 4-H Chart and the process became known as Charting.

Charting should not be confused with educational tests. The purpose is not the same. It is rather an aid to the layman when counseling with older 4-H boys and girls in helping them develop personal plans to make better persons of themselves.



# MADGE REESE RETIRES

## After Long Successful Career

**F**EW Extension workers have achieved a public service record equal to Madge Reese's. And few now on the rolls have spanned in their creative efforts a period that started before the Smith-Lever Act and has continued to the present.

When Miss Reese retired July 31, as home economics field agent for the Western States, she had completed 41 fruitful years of extension education, and had become one of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's best known professional women and home economics leaders. Her contributions—both to the Cooperative Extension Service and to its honorary fraternity, Epsilon Sigma Phi, which she helped establish—have been too numerous to list.

Her productive career began nearly half a century ago in her native State of Missouri. After a period of teaching there in rural and city elementary and high schools, she went to Alabama in 1914 and entered Extension work as State Home Demonstration and Girls 4-H Club Agent. Through her, home economics extension work in the "Yellowhammer State" got its start with both white and Negro families. In 1917, she accepted an appointment to the Office of Extension Work in the South, with headquarters in Washington, D. C.

During the 6 years that followed, she was field supervisor in both home demonstration and 4-H Club work in 15 Southern States. In 1923, when the Extension office of the South and the Extension office of the North and West were consolidated into the Federal Extension Service, she took up work in the 11 Western States, Alaska, and Hawaii, but still maintained headquarters in the Nation's capital. Twenty years later she concluded her 4-H Club duties and began giving full time to home demonstration.

Of all that stands out during the many years she poured energy, enthusiasm, and resourceful imagination into Extension's educational program, her "pioneer" days probably contributed the most and provided her with the greatest personal satisfaction. In the early years, for example, she helped plan and conduct the first countywide home demonstration planning conferences in the West; these were also among the first in the United States. Called "farm home economic and cost of living conferences," they were forerunners of many similar conferences now held to consider food and nutrition, clothing, home management, household equipment, and budgeting. She also paved the way in the West for newer extension programs like consumer education, health, and family living.

As a loyal and devoted Extension leader, she was one of a small group who helped organize Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national Extension fraternity, in 1927. From 1935 until her resignation in 1951, she served as Grand Secretary-Treasurer. Her activities in several special projects of the fraternity included: Making the presentation address during dedication of the Wilson and Knapp memorial arches of the U. S. Department of Agriculture buildings; setting up Epsilon Sigma Phi scholarship loans; compiling significant papers on the philosophy of Extension work; and preparing nine Epsilon Sigma Phi yearbooks.

She is author of numerous articles, papers, and reports on Extension topics, particularly home demonstration work. She has traveled extensively in the United States and Europe, assisted in 38 programs to orient trainees who come here from other lands to study Extension methods, and helped establish Extension



Madge Reese, Federal Extension Service's home economics field agent for the Western States, retired July 31, 1955.

programs in Hawaii and Alaska. Next year she plans to go to faraway Ceylon to attend the triennial conference of the Associated Country Women of the World, of which she is a lifetime member.

To contemplate such a journey, of course, implies good health, with which she is blessed, and reflects her on-going interest in programs for better home and family living which have long been her goal. In the days and years ahead as she follows a less strenuous pace, she will surely be able to recall with pride and pleasure her unnumbered undertakings and accomplishments in this direction. One thing is certain, her niche in Extension has been securely carved.

### NEW USDA PUBLICATIONS

Marketing Eggs, Farmers' Bulletin No. 1378, gives many useful and profitable farm practices that should be followed in the marketing of eggs. Included is a color plate showing United States Standards for Quality of Individual Shell Eggs.

Marketing Farm Poultry, Farmers' Bulletin No. 2030, presents the principal considerations, practices, and facilities involved and utilized in the marketing of poultry as an aid to producers.



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